



The Halyard

WE CAN NOT CONTROL THE WIND
BUT WE CAN ADJUST THE SAILS

Charlie's Chatter

Finally! I was able to drive to the Roanoke Regional without driving in the rain. It seems as if every time I go to Roanoke the weather is bad and I can't enjoy the mountains. The drive to Roanoke on Tuesday was beautiful and sunny. On Wednesday, I drove down to Abingdon for the Clinch regional and the weather continued to cooperate. But all good things come to an end; rain followed me home on Thursday afternoon. But it did not matter because I was still flying high from all of the wonderful things that I saw and the excitement that was palpable at both regional meetings. My thanks are extended to the Kathy Meredith and Jill Jesse and their committee members for providing such wonderful sessions

and opportunities for professional growth and development.

Those of you who have not attended a regional meeting are missing out on a great opportunity to network with your colleagues,



For more information:
<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Technology/OET/library.shtml>

to meet with the vendors and see their products, "up close and personal". If you are in the York or Rappahannock regions, there is still time to register. Please think about joining your VEMA president, Kathy Lehman and me at those upcoming regional meetings.

It was wonderful to share the work of the Linking Libraries crews. I look for-

ward to coming to your school divisions to work with you in putting this great tool into practice. Remember, I am just a phone call or email away. If you would be interested in having a workshop, have someone in your central office contact me to make arrangements.

Sailing term: Halyard—the name of the rope used to raise and lower to main sail. This newsletter is named the Halyard because it is the goal of this office to help you adjust your sails to meet the waves of change that constantly come your way.

April 8, 2005

FREE

Check out these websites for FREE Stuff!

[Http://www.ed.gov/free/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/free/index.html)

[Http://www.education-elementary.com/middleschoollesson-plans.htm](http://www.education-elementary.com/middleschoollesson-plans.htm)

[Http://www.justfreestuff.com](http://www.justfreestuff.com)

[Http://www.loc.gov](http://www.loc.gov)

[Http://web.uvic.ca/hrd/halfbaked/index.htm](http://web.uvic.ca/hrd/halfbaked/index.htm)

Many thanks to Becky Austin, Washington County for sharing

UPCOMING EVENTS

- York Regional— April 11 Landstown High School Virginia Beach 8-3:00
- Rappahannock Regional—April 15 Fredericksburg Academy 8-2:30

Things Learned At The Regionals

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Jim Cosgrove, also known at Mr. Stinky Feet, invited the participants to live like a child—not to be confused with childish—but to become child-like. Using humor and music, he led the session to explore how we can better connect with the children we serve. Some of the ideas suggested were to tell stories, to get down on the floor, to listen, to dance, to laugh, to be silly, to get cozy, to make eye contact, play games and to stop multi-tasking and focus on the child. He reminded us that each of us has rhythm, it starts in the heart, we have just moved far away from it

as we have “grown-up”. For more information about his work, visit, <http://www.jimcosgrove.com>.

Peggy Koplizt, from Alexandria City and Kathen Galenis, addressed the issue of Information Power: Standards and Assessment. They challenged us to evaluate our selves, to use the resources available and get involved in local activities.

Sessions on the Virginia Young Readers were fascinating. A discussion on language and sexuality in young adult literature was lively and informative.

Kathy Lehman, shared how to make Linking Libraries work for you!

SheriLyns's Creative Characters had the group in Roanoke holding their sides with laughter as they unveiled the newest technology to arrive in the library. The library media specialist Model 2006, who just happened to arrive complete with the dreaded “Bookworm Virus”



Kids Need Poetry in School

Why do children and teens like writing poetry? It's an excellent and necessary means of self-expression. Poetry necessitates scratching below the surface, plumbing emotions students are often afraid to share with their peers. Students will often reveal long-hidden troubles they'd be otherwise reluctant to divulge. Through the medium of poetry, students can more easily understand and identify with their classmates' sadness, fear, loneliness, rage, excitement,

awe and pleasure. Poetry is a freer form than prose and poetry can also help students define who they are. Teachers frequently tell Susan Terence that they have a much deeper and fuller understanding of their students after reading their students' poems. She's noticed a closer sense of community forming in a classroom where students regularly share their own poetry. April is National Poetry Month. If there is not already a poetry program at your child's school,

remind your school's teachers and administrators how poetry promotes literacy and emotional well-being. Ask them to support a poets-in-the schools program. Check out or purchase poetry books from your library or bookstore. Read poetry aloud to your children. Encourage them to keep a journal of their poetry at home. In some small way, poetry opens up and saves our lives.

<http://www.sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?file=/chronicle/archive/2005/04/06/>



Gale Databases Workshops

Regional workshops have been held in Albermarle County, Franklin County, and Hanover County. Two

additional opportunities to participate will be on April 21 at Colonial Beach High School in Colonial Beach and on

May 20 at Carroll County Intermediate School in Carroll County.

There are two

Gale workshop registrations



sessions each day. The morning workshop which is from 9:00-11:30 will focus on the databases that provide excellent support for the elementary and middle school researchers. The afternoon session starts at 1:00 and ends at 3:30 will address the needs of the secondary student.

If you are interested in attending, please email Charlie.Makela@doe.virginia.gov. These sessions are open to public and private schools as well as the public library staff. The Library of Virginia is also offering training in April and May. To register online, visit

http://www.vpl.lib.va.us/ce/galetraining/gale_classid.asp



April 19	9:30 till 4:30 (note time difference)	Jefferson-Madison Regional Library 201 East Market Street Charlottesville, VA 22902
April 20	9 till 4	Central Rappahannock Regional Library 1201 Caroline Street Fredericksburg, VA 22401
May 3	9 till 4	John Handley High School Handley Blvd. Winchester, VA
May 4	9 till 4	Roanoke County Public Library Hollins Branch 6624 Peters Creek Rd. Roanoke, VA
May 5	9 till 4	Pittsylvania County Public Library 24 Military Drive Chatham, VA 24531
May 6	9 till 4	Washington County Public Library 205 Oak Hill St. Abingdon, VA



Proposed Computer Technology Standards of Learning



Students working to meet the Computer Technology Standards of Learning.

The Board of Education at its March 2005 meeting approved for distribution the proposed Computer/Technology Standards of Learning for Grades K-12. A public hearing will be conducted at the May 25, 2005, meeting. The Department of Education invites you to review and provide comments on the proposed standards. Comments should be emailed to 95CTSOL@doe.virginia.gov

A copy of the proposed standards is available at <http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/Technology/proposedSOL-05.pdf> The proposed standards of learning for grades K-12 identify and define the progressive development of essential knowledge and skills necessary for students to access, evaluate, and use and create information using technology in five areas: Basic Operations and Concepts, Social, Ethical, and Human Issues, Technology Research Tools, Prob-

lem-Solving and Decision-Making Tools, and Technology Communication Tools. The standards provide a framework for technology literacy. The benchmarks demonstrate a progression from physical manipulation skills for the use of technology, to intellectual skills necessary for information use, to skills and attitudes for learning independently, and finally to the skills needed for working responsibly and productively within groups.

The Computer/Technology Standards of Learning for Grades K-12 involve the development of practical skills over time with tasks becoming progressively more complex. Computer/technology proficiency is not an end in itself but lays a foundation for lifelong learning. The focus is on learning to use technology rather than learning about technology. To become technologically proficient, the student must

develop the skills through integrated activities in all content areas K-12, rather than through one specific course. These skills are necessary for all students and should be introduced and refined collaboratively by all K-12 teachers as an integral part of the learning process.

If additional information is needed concerning the proposed standards, please contact Charlie Makela, Charlie.Makela@doe.virginia.gov, school library media and research services specialist, at (804) 786-9412.